

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

**Confirmation No. 9265**

Yasuo HIRATA

Date: July 16, 2008

Serial No.: 10/621,086

Group Art Unit: 3739

Filed: July 15, 2003

Examiner: Beverly Meindl FLANAGAN

For: ENDOSCOPE SYSTEM HAVING CONSIDERATION TAKEN INTO  
EASE OF PASSING ELONGATED INSERTION UNIT

VIA EFS WEB

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**  
**REMARKS/ARGUMENT**

This Response is filed in reply to the Restriction Requirement mailed July 1, 2008.

For purposes of this Restriction Response, Applicant elects the invention of Group [02a], identified as a distal cover member having a passing direction changing opening formed in a lateral side. Applicant further states that the claims readable on the elected Group are claims 2, 4, 5 and 7. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application directed to the subject matter covered in the non-elected claims.

The Examiner's assertion that claims 1 and 8-16 are generic is noted. Upon allowance of a generic claim, withdrawal of the election requirement will be appropriate. Early and favorable consideration of the present application is earnestly solicited.

If this communication is filed after the statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner for Patents is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. §1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING  
SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY  
THROUGH THE UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
EFS FILING SYSTEM  
ON JULY 16, 2008

Respectfully submitted,



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